

I.O.F.

A

VINDICATION OF THE SPECIMEN

Design'd for a
General Translation

O F

HORACE,

B Y

Dr. BROWNE,

From the pretended Criticisms of
Mr. De Foe, in his Little Review.

L O N D O N,

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AMONG THE

TO CANTERBURY AND BACK

BY G. R. BROWN

A Vindication of the Specimen, design'd for a general Translation of Horace, &c.

I Shou'd think my self oblig'd to Mr. De Foe or any Gentleman that wou'd be so kind, as to inform me of what Errors I have committed in this *Specimen*, which I publish'd for that purpose; and have declar'd in the *Preface*, I shall acknowledge the Obligation to any that will candidly communicate their Criticisms, which, if just, I promise to correct my own by; and upon that, if I meet with sufficient encouragement to publish my Version of *Horace*, I design to expose every Sheet, after I have corrected it the last time, to the Judgment and Censure of the Learned, who will trouble themselves to make such Amendments as may be necessary to please the Curious. And to show the World I am not Opiniative of my own Performances, I desire all the Assistance I can get; and shall be so far from being displeas'd, that I shall be glad to be Corrected. But after this declaration of my Condescension to Men of Judgment, I think it a

very easie Task to free my *Specimen* from the Criticisms of Mr. De Foe's Paper ; tho' I think it wou'd be more difficult to teach him to be a Critick, or to understand how to write Correctly ; for e're he sets up for that he ought to read *Horace*, *Virgil*, and some other of the best Classicks, and then he wou'd understand, what the Cyclopes were ? who they work'd for, and the place where ? as I shall by and by inform him, if he likes *Virgil* in the *Latin* ; or, for the benefit of his *English* Muse, give him Mr. Dryden's Translation. But to come to his Correction of my Faults ; the first whereof is, he says, in *Ode 1st line 2.*

From thee my Safety, and my Honour springs.

Horace's words are,

O & Præsidium, & dulce decus meum.

The Author's Expression in the Original is in the singular Number ; and tho' he makes use of no Verb, I was oblig'd to it in the difference of turn I give it, and find the Verb, *springs*, as it is us'd in the singular Number, and distinctly applicable either to *Safety* or *Honour*, to be better Grammar, and more agreeable to the beauty of *Horace's* way of expressing himself, than if I had not separated the words, but made the Verb in the plural Number ; so that the fault lies in the want of a *Comma*, as I have now plac'd it at *Safety* ; which is so in the *Latin*, and wou'd have directed any body that consulted *Horacee*. And this omission of the Press was not owing to me, but particularly

corrected in the last Proof. And if this Sense of the Author's was to be writ in Prose, it wou'd be, from thee, speaking of *Mæcenas*, springs my Safety, and my Honour, not as Mr. De Foe Remarks, because Safety and Honour, though joyn'd by the Copulative *and*, are two things; but because the two *et's* in the Latin, *O & presidium, & dulce decus meum*, make 'em *disjunctives*, as may be plainly observ'd from the *Comma*, by those that know the use and force of Pointing, either in *English*, or any other Language; I hope this will satisfice the Curious that desire to be satisfied, and I have no intention to please those who delight to Cavil; for the more is said, the more room there is given for them to find Faults.

I perceive, Mr. De Foe, is very angry with the *Moon Calf*, which he Fathers upon me without any Grounds, I believe; but let who will be the Author of it, I must tell him, he does, and has done him a great deal of injustice, by pretending to quote his Words and Page, when he delivers the Page false, and the Sense quite contrary, either to his Words or Meaning. He says, *That Black is nothing but White*, and quotes, *Moon Calf*, pag. 4. when in the *Moon Calf*, the Words are, *how common is it for you to say, as contrary as Black and White, when there is no Black but what is White*, *Moon Calf*, pag. 12. Is this kind of usage agreeable to Mr. De Foe's Pretensions, which I once thought were Just and Honourable, till he gave me Reasons to suspend my Judgment. But there are more Inconsistencies he throws upon the *Moon Calf* in his other Papers, which are of the like Nature falsly quoted, and falsly apply'd, which is the worst

worst kind of Treatment he could have used, and will fall the foulest upon himself in the Judgment of all Persons who value *Truth*, and abhor a Lye ; for Falsities are the more notorious for being in Print , when they are writ with Design to deceive ; and such they must be , that represent things contrary to what they evidently appear to be. But to proceed with the next.

The fiery Cyclops sulph'rous Fumes creates.

Cyclops creates is Grammar undoubtedly , because *Cyclops* is the singular number , and so is the verb *creates* , but it ought to have been writ *Cyclops's* in the plural , and then his Remark had been Just, and the Word should have been *create* in the plural Number ; not as Mr. *De Foe* expresses it , *make a plural*. I own this is not so good Sense as it ought to have been, but he'll never be able to prove it false Grammar as printed, and as he pretends. So much for that Point : Now let us consider our Critick's reading in the Poets or other Ancient Authors, and find how he came acquainted with the *Cyclopes* , which, mistaking after me, he calls the *Cyclops* , who, we have been told , says he, *Are a Gang of Pluto's Armour-Makers, Anglice Hammer-Smiths, and Work at a Forge the Lord knows where.*

I wonder where Mr. *De Foe* , read of *Pluto's* ever being a Hero, and wearing Armour, that the *Cyclopes* should be his particular *Armour-Makers* , since they were known to be *Vulcan's* Work-Men, and wrought Armour for *Pallas* , and the Heroes of the Age, at *Vulcan's* own House,

as

as *Virgil* describes 'em ; and I know not where else he will meet with such another Account of 'em ; how little soever he may value it, I think it very fine as described.

*Iusula sicanium juxta latus Aoliamq;
Erigitur Liparen, fumantibus ardua saxis :
Quam subter specus, & Cyclopum exesa caminis
Antra Atnæa tonant, validiq; incudibus ictus
Audit referunt gemitum, striduntq; cavernis
Stricturæ chalybum, & fornacibus ignis anhelat
Volcani domus, & Volcania nomine tellus.
Hoc tunc ignipotens cælo descendit ab alto
Ferrum exercebant vasto Cyclopes in antro
Brontesq; Steropesq; & nudus Membra Pyracmon.*

Thus English'd.

Sacred to *Vulcan's* Name an Isle there lay,
Betwixt *Sicilia's* Coast and *Lipara* ;
Rais'd high on smoaking Rocks, and deep below
In hollow Caves the Fires of *Atna* glow.
The *Cyclops's* here their heavy Hammers deal,
Loud strokes, and hissing of tormented Steel
Are heard around ; the boiling Waters roar,
And smoaky Flame thro' fuming Funnels soar.
Hither, the Father of the Fire, by Night
Through the brown Air precipitates his Flight.
On their Eternal Anvils here he found,
The Brethren beating, and the Blows go round,

Virgil Names several of these Hammer-smiths,
as Mr. *Foe* calls 'em by the Names of *Brontes*,
Steropes and *Pyracmon*, and a little further.

My

My Sons, said *Vulcan*, set your Tasks aside,
 Your strength and Master skill must now be try'd,
 Arms for a Heroe Forge; Arms that require
 Your force, your speed, and all your forming
 Fire.

Who do you think this Heroe was? Not *Pluto*,
 I can assure you, but *Aeneas*, for *Jove* had set
 'em on Work to make Thunder-Bolts, and they
 were forging a Sheild for *Pallas*, all which they
 laid aside to employ themselves for this Heroe,
 as *Vulcan* tells you in the foregoing Lines.

There are the following Errata's, Mr. De Foe
 might have done me a kindness in observing, lest
 I should have past 'em by; but to show him I am
 sensible of Mine and the Printer's faults, I make
 these amendments.

PAGE 1. place a Comma at Safety, p. 5. for *sol. r. sola.*
 p. 16. for *Vavonius*, r. *Favonius*. p. 38. for *Snebelus*,
 r. *Stbenelus*.

A Gentleman oblig'd me with this Alteration in the same
 page, where it is, the daring Teucer 'll, to make it, Teucer
 the bold will follow thee from far.

F I N I S.